

DIVISION: FORMS 1 - 1V
AGE GROUP: 12 years plus

11/26/227

S E R I E S: CURRENT AFFAIRS
PROGRAMME (7).....: "The International Commission
of Jurists"

RECORDING TIME:

TRANSMISSION: Wednesday, June 23, 1965 (2.46 - 2.58 p.m.)

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WRE:

Hello boys and girls,

Not checked with broadcast copy and not
to be recorded without the signature of
the Schools Broadcasts Organiser.

You know, there are many ways in which we are all a bit luckier than our grandfathers were. You see there are many organisations now willing to help small countries - and most of them have come about only in the last twenty years or so. Can you think of any? Well there's the United Nations, for a start. Children all over the World now know about the United Nations in one way or other. Sometimes their books come from some group of people at the United Nations, sometimes their milk does so too. And of course the United Nations try to keep nations from falling out with each other or people in the same country from quarreling and splitting the country up. But the United Nations is not the only body that helps people all over the world. There are a host of others - and one of them is the International Commission of Jurists. You've probably heard those three words a lot recently. They have been in the news - We hear that a committee of the International Commission of Jurists is coming to Guyana. But why?

/Well to answer.....

Well to answer that let's have a look at one of
Guiana's problems. I don't have to tell you that Guiana
is a country with a number of races - You just have to
look around you in school to see what I mean. We have
Portuguese, Chinese, East Indian, Amerindian, Africans,
and people who have the blood of more than one of these
races in their veins. Now this is an excellent thing
for any country. Just think of those countries which have
only one race of people. It's a lot *duller* than it is
when there are many you know. Think of the different
kinds of *faces* you can see on a *single road* ~~wood~~ in a village or
a street in Georgetown or New Amsterdam. And think
of the different kinds of foods we have from our races -
Guiana has so many dishes that some visitors say it's an
eater's paradise.

But you know the old proverb - every coin has two sides.
And this *lucky* ^{*ours*} fate of ~~coins~~ - of having many races - has
a *less lucky* side. Sometimes instead of getting on
together as well as they should they become a little
annoyed with one another. And this has been happening -
to our great shame - between some members of one race
and some members of another race. What's the main
complaint? Well Africans and East Indians are almost
equal in numbers when taken all together. But for a
long time East Indians lived in the country - the
rural areas and Africans lived more in Georgetown. Jobs
going in Georgetown were mostly got by Africans. The
Police Force is an example of this. For a long time there

/were very few.....

were very few East Indians in the Police force because not many of them wanted to become policemen. But as Guiana will soon become independent, some people feel that all the important jobs should be held by all the races in a way that will agree with their numbers as a whole. You can see that this is a big problem - And it needs careful study to see if in some kinds of job there is ^{really} more of one race than the others. If this is so then you need experts to recommend what can be done to change this. And most people feel that you need persons from outside Guiana to do this. You know when you go to a new place for the first time you notice things that people who live there all the time do not notice - because they have become too accustomed to the things around them. So it is felt that if experts come from abroad they might see the problem much clearer than we do - and much faster too.

And here is where the International Commission of Jurists come in. They often go to countries where there is a difference of opinion between various sets of people and work out a way of pleasing both sides - they work out a solution as we say. They are really a body of Lawyers and-very accustomed to all sorts of human problems and very skilled in getting to the bottom of difficulties quickly. Well the Prime Minister has invited three of them to come and study this particular problem - to see if there are too many people of one race in some jobs. They will be here in another month or so and will get down to the problem and listen to suggestion and ideas and read

/reports and

reports and talk to people. And when they are finished
they will write a report on what they find and suggestions
on what they think can be done. So you see how these
big organisations ^{are} ~~and~~ working to bring greater peace
a and harmony among the peoples of the World. We are
all neighbours now - all the countries and we
are lucky to be able to have groups of people looking at
our difficulties with great interest. And of course in
time, some of our very distinguished lawyers and scholars
will be doing the same for other countries.

Well so long until next week.

OPR:

PLAY THEME: